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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Jean-Claude Poilevey of Oak Park, who passed away on April 9, 2016; and

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WHEREAS, Jean-Claude Poilevey was born in the Burgundy region of France on February 10, 1945; he began training at 14 years old in a small restaurant near the Jura Mountains, an area close to Switzerland; in the mid-1960s, after serving as a cook in the French Army, he moved to London and worked for three years at The Colony Club and Cafe Royale; and

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WHEREAS, In 1968, Jean-Claude Poilevey and several other French chefs working in London, including the late Chef Jean Banchet, were recruited to work for Hugh Heffner at the Playboy Club in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin; and

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WHEREAS, Jean-Claude Poilevey moved to Chicago, and in 1973, along with a few friends, opened a restaurant, La Fontaine; in 1988, he bought out his partners and continued to run the business until he sold it in 1993; over its 20-year run, many chefs were trained there, some who went on to open their own successful restaurants; and

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WHEREAS, In 1993, Jean-Claude Poilevey and his wife,

1 Susanne, opened Le Buochon, a small 40-seat bistro in Bucktown;
2 in 1998, they opened another restaurant, La Sardine, in the
3 West Loop area of Chicago; and

4 WHEREAS, Jean-Claude Poilevey was a traditionalist in
5 French cuisine, with a good-natured tableside manner; he was
6 considered a unifier in both the French culinary community and
7 the French expat community in Chicago; and

8 WHEREAS, Jean-Claude Poilevey is survived by his wife,
9 Susanne, and his three sons, Oliver, Nicolas, and Henri;
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
13 Jean-Claude Poilevey, and extend our sincere condolences to his
14 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to the family of Jean-Claude Poilevey as an
18 expression of our deepest sympathy.